and winter components respectively are given in the Annexure. *(See* Appendix GLXII, Annexure No. 13)

(c) by virtue of the expeditions to Antarctica India has established a permanent station at Maitri (70° 45' 39.4"S, 11° 44' 48.6"E) and a supply-cum-suromer base camp at Dakshin Gangotri (70° 05'S, 12° 00'E). As a result, India is a Consultative Party to the Antarctica Treaty, Member of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and Member of the Com mission for Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMUO.

Valuable data and information has been collected under various disciplines of science *viz.* Earth Sciences, Atmospheric Sciences and Magnetosphere, Meteorology, Biosciences and Environmental Physiology. A complete Geological map of the Wolhthat region in Antarctica is now available. The results obtained from various expeditions are, at present, available in five volumes.

The total expenditure incurred so far on the eleven Antarctic ex-penditions is Rs. 82.85 crore approx' mately.

दूरदर्शन का दूसरा राष्ट्रीय चैनल

*45. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :
श्री बेकल "उत्साही" :

क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दूरदर्शन का दूसरा राष्ट्रीय चैनल आरंभ किये जाने का प्रस्ताव है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसकी अनुमानित लागत क्या है; और

(ग) क्या इसके लिए अनिवासी भ. रतीयों सहित गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र से धन प्राप्त किये जाने का प्रस्ताव है; यदि हां, तो कितना और किन शर्तों पर ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) दूसरे राष्ट्रीय चैनल (एन–2) की स्थापना करने की स्कीम को आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल करने का प्रस्ताव है।

(ख) प्रारंभिक अनुमानों के अनुसार स्कीम पर लगभग 2460 करोड़ रुपए की लागत आएगी।

(ग) फिलहाल ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Central Public Sector Pharmaceutical Units in West Bengal

*46. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have received any letter from the Chief Minister of West Bengal concerning three Central Public Sector Pharmaceutical Units of the State ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) to (c)
Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of West Bengal has suggested that attempt should first be made to devise, fund and implement ap-propriate rehabilitation strategies before other alternatives are pursued in respect of Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Bengal Immunity Limited and Smith Stani-street Pharmaceuticals Ltd., the three Calcutta based public sector drug companies. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has been informed by the Prime

Minister that the possibilities of rehabilitation of these companies will be considered in the first instance.

Clearance for Gas Cracker project in Assam

*47. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Finance Ministry has given necessary clearance for the proposed Gas Cracker Project to be set up in Assam ; and

(b) if so, what amount of money has been sanctioned for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Assam State Industrial Development Corporation were issued a letter of intent No. LI : 59(91) dated 25-1-1991 for a gas based cracker complex with 300,000 TPA ethylene capacity. Since the project is proposed to be implemented in the joint sector (ASIDC are looking for possible collaborators), there is no need for clearance from the Ministry of Finance. The project authorities are required to finalise detailed feasibility report for the project and then approach the financial institutions and other sources for arranging funds.

Sale of Mirage-2000 Fighter Planes to Pakistan by France

*48. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :

SHRl M. S. GURUPADA-SWAMI is

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan is acquiring a large number of Mirage-2000 fighter planes from France ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reaction of Government on such deals ;

(c) to what extent Pakistan's air striking power would have an edge-over India's air power as a result thereof ; and -

(d) what preventive steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRl S KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Government is aware that discussion on the possible supply of 2 Squadrons of Mirage-2000 took place during Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to France in January, 1992. It is gathered that no agreement has been concluded so far. If acquired, these aircraft would enhance the multi-role capability of Pak' Stan's Air Force. Government is keeping a watch on developments in this regard and wiii take appropriate steps to ensure India's security. Our concerns about arms sales to Pakistan, disproportionate to the latter's legitimate defence needs, are known to the French Government.

लघु एककों संबंधी नीति

*49 सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 30 दिसम्बर, 1991 के स्टेट्समैन में "पालिसी फार स्माल यूनिट्स सून" शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है,

(ख) क्या सरकार लघु तथा छोटे औद्योगिक क्षेत्र को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए